

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
SHERMAN DIVISION**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</b>	§	
	§	
<b>v.</b>	§	<b>CASE NUMBER 4:21-CR-00167-JDK</b>
	§	
<b>JOHN CARL FERRELL, M.D. (1),</b>	§	

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND RECOMMENDATION ON GUILTY PLEA  
BEFORE THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
PURSUANT TO RULE 11(c)(1)(C)**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b), this matter has been referred by the District Court for administration of a plea of guilty under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

On January 4, 2022, this cause came before the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge for a plea of guilty to an Information charging the defendant in Count One with a violation of Title 21 U.S.C. § 846 - Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Distribute and Dispense and Distributing and Dispensing of Controlled Substances. After conducting said proceeding in the form and manner prescribed by FED. R. CRIM. P. 11, the undersigned finds that:

a. Defendant, after consultation with counsel of record, has knowingly and voluntarily consented to the administration of the Guilty Plea in this cause by a United States Magistrate Judge, subject to a final acceptance and imposition of sentence by the District Judge;

b. Defendant and the government have entered into a plea agreement which has been filed and disclosed in open court pursuant to FED. R. CRIM. P. 11(c)(2);

c. Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed plea, that the defendant is aware of the nature of the charges, the maximum penalties, and the consequences of the plea, and that the plea of guilty is a knowing and voluntary plea supported by an independent basis in fact containing each of the essential elements of the offense; and

d. Defendant understands each of the constitutional and statutory rights enumerated in Rule 11(b) and wishes to waive these rights, including the right to a trial by jury.

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED** that the District Court accept the Plea Agreement and the Guilty Plea of the Defendant and that **JOHN CARL FERRELL, M.D.**, should be adjudged guilty of that offense, reserving to the District Judge the option of rejecting the Plea Agreement pursuant to Rule 11(c)(5) if, after review of the presentence report, the agreed sentence is determined not to be the appropriate disposition of the case.

### **OBJECTIONS**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(c), each party to this action has the right to file objections to this report and recommendation. Objections to this report must: (1) be in writing, (2) specifically identify those findings or recommendations to which the party objects, and (3) be served and filed within fourteen (14) days after being served with a copy of this report, and (4) be no more than eight (8) pages in length. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(c) (2009); FED. R. CIV. P. 72(b)(2); Local Rule CV-72(c). A party who objects to this report is entitled to a *de novo* determination by the United States District Judge of those proposed findings and recommendations to which a specific objection is timely made. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) (2009); FED R. CIV. P. 72(b)(3).

A party's failure to file specific, written objections to the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law contained in this report, within fourteen (14) days of being served with a copy of this report, bars that party from: (1) entitlement to *de novo* review by the United States District Judge of the findings of fact and conclusions of law, see Rodriguez v. Bowen, 857 F.2d 275, 276–77 (5th Cir. 1988), and (2) appellate review, except on grounds of plain error, of any such findings of fact and conclusions of law accepted by the United States District Judge, see Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Ass'n, 79 F.3d 1415, 1428–29 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc).

**So ORDERED and SIGNED this 10th day of January, 2022.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Priest Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

KIMBERLY C. PRIEST JOHNSON  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE